Message Text

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PCAT, MASS, TW, IS

SUBJECT: ROC DENIAL OF CONTACT WITH ISRAEL REGARDING PURCHASE

OF KFIR AIRCRAFT

REF: TAIPEI 1437

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF MARCH 9 CHINA POST FRONT-PAGE STORY ON ROC MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE SPOKESMAN'S DENIAL OF GROC NEGOTIATIONS WITH ISRAEL ON KFIR AIRCRAFT. STORY WAS REPORTED IN ALL CHINESE LANGUAGE PAPERS, WHICH LIKE THE POST SUPPLEMENTED MND STATEMENT WITH EXCERPTS FROM MARCH 8 AP TEL AVIV STORY.

BEGIN POST TEXT: "A SPOKESMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S

BEGIN POST TEXT: "A SPOKESMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE DENIED YESTERDAY REPORTS FROM FOREIGN NEWS AGENCIES THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN DEALING WITH THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES FOR PURCHASES OF KFIR FIGHTER BOMBERS. MAJ. GEN. WANG, YEH-KAI, A SPOKESMAN OF THE MINISTRY TOLD THE CHINA POST THAT THE REPORT IS GROUNDLESS, SINCE NO CONTACTS HAVE BEEN MADE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH ISRAEL ON THE MATTER." (TEXT FOLLOWED BY AP STORY.) END TEXT.

2. TAIPEI AFP STRINGER CALIX CHU CONTACTED TDC SPOKESMAN MARCH 8 TO INQUIRE ABOUT AP STORY. TDC SPOKESMAN REPLIED THAT "WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT HERE" AND REFERRED AFP TO WASHINGTON.

3. MARCH 9 CHUNG YANG JIH PAO CARRIED CORRESPONDENT WANG SZU-YU REPORT WHICH CLAIMS HE QUERIED DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ON ROC PURCHASE OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT FROM ISRAEL. WANG QUOTES SPOKESMAN'S REPLY AS "WE KNOW OF THIS MATTER AND ARE REVIEWING IT." CHUNG KUO SHIH PAO MARCH 9 CARRIED ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT FU CHIEN-CHUNG'S REPORT WHICH QUOTES DEPARTMENT DEPUTY SPOKESMAN RESTON AS SAYING, ON THE MORNING OF MARCH 9 (SIC) "WE KNOW OF THE ROC'S PLANS TO PURCHASE KFIR FIGHTERS FROM ISRAEL. HOWEVER, SINCE THE ENGINES OF THE AIRPLANES ARE MADE BY THE U.S. GENERAL ELECTRIC CORPORATION, THE U.S. IS NOW REVIEWING WHETHER IT WILL EVENTUALLY APPROVE ISRAELI PLANS TO SELL THE ABOVE MENTIONED PLANE TO THE ROC." UNGER

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TAGS: PCAT, MASS, TW, IS

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